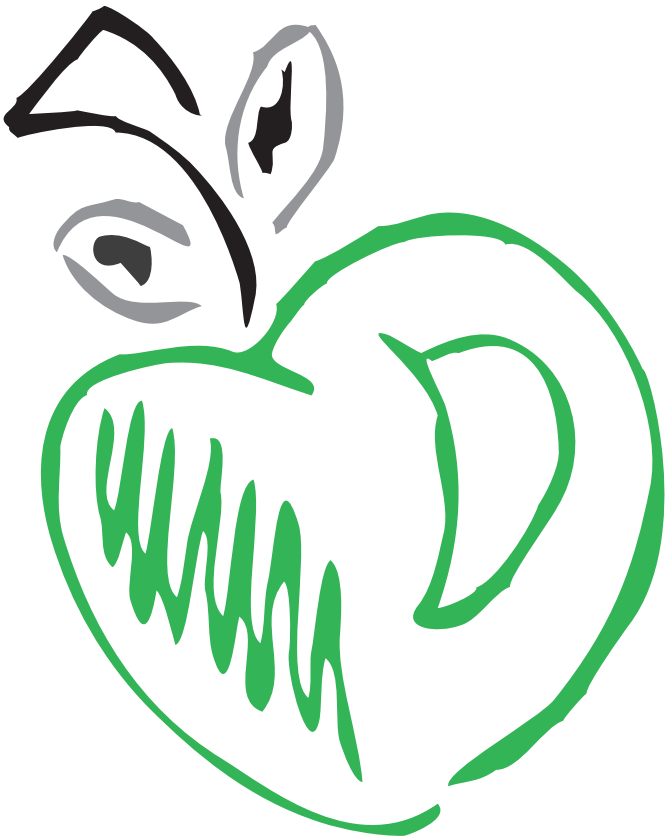


# Excellence in Education

Recognizing  
Colorado's  
Outstanding  
Educators,  
Students, and  
Schools



Providing a solid education for every child is one of the most important issues facing our country.

In Colorado, our goal is to make sure all of our students succeed.

The programs described in this brochure recognize, honor, and celebrate the contributions of outstanding educators, students, and schools to the lives and futures of our children.

## Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship

The Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship is a federally funded program for students graduating from high school and studying full-time in a college or university. The program promotes student excellence and achievement and recognizes exceptionally able students who show promise of continued academic excellence to allow them to graduate in four years with a bachelor's degree. The Byrd scholarship program depends on annual federal funding. These scholarships are awarded on the basis of merit each year for four years of undergraduate study.

### Application Procedures

Application information is sent to all public and some private secondary school counselors and GED testing centers the first quarter in the year. Check with your school counselor for information or download a version in Adobe Acrobat from the CDE web site:  
[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/byrd.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/byrd.htm)

### Application Deadline

March

### Contact Information

Ivy Leaif  
303-866-6974  
[leaif\\_i@cde.state.co.us](mailto:leaif_i@cde.state.co.us)

## National Youth Science Camp

The National Youth Science Camp is a four-week, all-expense-paid program in which delegates exchange ideas with leading scientists and other professionals from the academic and corporate worlds. Lectures and hands-on research projects are presented by scientists from across the nation who work on some of today's most provocative topics in science. Delegates are challenged to explore new areas in the biological and physical sciences, art, and music with resident staff members. Delegates also visit Washington D.C. to take advantage of some of the nation's premier scientific, governmental, and cultural facilities.

### Application Procedures

Applicants must be high-school seniors who will be available for the entire NYSC program, intend to pursue a profession oriented toward science, mathematics, engineering, or medicine, and demonstrate superior academic proficiency. For more information, see:  
[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/nysc.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/nysc.htm)

### Application Deadline

April

### Contact Information

Janice McDermott  
303-866-6764  
[mcdermott\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:mcdermott_j@cde.state.co.us)

## U. S. Senate Youth Program

In 1962, the United States Senate voted unanimously to endorse a nationwide youth program that would bring high school students to Washington, DC for a brief introduction to the functions of the federal government, in particular the United States Senate. The resolution specified that the program should be “supported by private funds with no expense to the federal government.” Thus, the William Randolph Hearst Foundation became the program’s sponsor.

### Application Procedures

The program is open to high school juniors and seniors from each state, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense/Department of Defense Office of Dependents Schools. Each state selects two delegates with outstanding records of academic achievement and leadership to participate in this unique program, and each delegate receives a one-time \$5,000 college scholarship. For more information, see: [www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/senateyouth.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/senateyouth.htm)

### Application Deadline

October

### Contact Information

Nelma Hundley  
303-866-6865  
[hundley\\_n@cde.state.co.us](mailto:hundley_n@cde.state.co.us)

## Colorado School Awards

The Colorado School Awards Program was created in the 2000 Colorado General Assembly to present financial awards to the highest performing and the most improved public schools in the state as determined by the School Accountability Reports.

The **John Irwin Schools of Excellence Awards** target the highest performing schools. The **Governor’s Distinguished Improvement Awards** focus on most improved schools.

The awards range from \$5,000 to \$15,000 based on numbers of students within the honored schools. SB-00-186 established this program and designated funds for the awards. For more information, see: [www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/jirwin.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/jirwin.htm)

### Application Procedures

The School Accountability Reports designate schools eligible for this award.

### Application Deadline

No application necessary.

### Contact Information

Jan Silverstein  
303-866-6635  
[silverstein\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:silverstein_j@cde.state.co.us)

## National Blue Ribbon Schools

The No Child Left Behind–Blue Ribbon Schools program honors public and private K-12 schools that are academically superior or demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement. Blue Ribbon schools are national models of excellence. Awards are based on student achievement and results. To qualify, schools must meet

**either** of two criteria:

- Schools must demonstrate that at least 40 percent of their students come from disadvantaged backgrounds and also dramatically improve student performance in accordance with state assessment systems **OR**
- Schools must score in the top 10 percent on state assessments.

For more information, see:

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/blueribbon.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/blueribbon.htm)

## Application Procedures

Qualifying schools will receive applications from the U.S. Department of Education.

## Application Deadline

March

## Contact Information

Mary Anne Hoffman  
303-623-5176  
[gmahoffman@aol.com](mailto:gmahoffman@aol.com)

## Title I Distinguished Schools Program

The Title I Distinguished Schools Recognition Program identifies schools that:

- ensure that all children have access to effective instructional strategies and challenging academic content; and
- demonstrate success in ensuring that all children, particularly those who are educationally deprived, make significant progress toward learning that content.

## Application Procedures

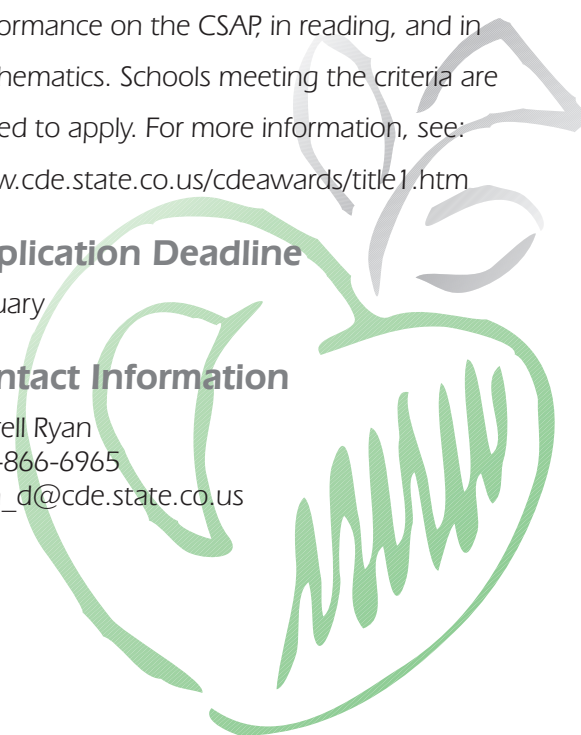
Highly successful schools that are operating in high-poverty attendance areas (40%+) are encouraged to apply. These schools must meet five stringent criteria related to student performance on the CSAP, in reading, and in mathematics. Schools meeting the criteria are invited to apply. For more information, see: [www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/title1.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/title1.htm)

## Application Deadline

January

## Contact Information

Darrell Ryan  
303-866-6965  
[ryan\\_d@cde.state.co.us](mailto:ryan_d@cde.state.co.us)



## Recognizing Excellence in Education

This brochure describes eight programs that recognize schools, educators, and students who have made a difference in education in Colorado. These programs, coordinated in Colorado through the CDE Competitive Grants and Awards office, are sponsored by various national, state, and civic organizations committed to promoting excellence in education at all levels.

### Honors for Educators

- Colorado Teacher of the Year
- Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards

### Honors for Schools

- Colorado School Awards
- National Blue Ribbon Schools
- Title I Distinguished Schools Program

### Honors for Students

- Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship
- National Youth Science Camp
- U. S. Senate Youth Program

More detailed or updated information about these programs can be found at our web site:

**[www.cde.state.co.us/index\\_awards](http://www.cde.state.co.us/index_awards)**

## Colorado Teacher of the Year

The Colorado Teacher of the Year Program is our state's oldest and most prestigious honors program recognizing the contributions of the classroom teacher. The teacher must:

- demonstrate high levels of academic achievement
- inspire students of all backgrounds and abilities to learn
- have the respect and admiration of students, parents, and colleagues
- play an active and useful role in the community

The Teacher of the Year serves as liaison with the teaching community, legislature, CDE, and districts; education ambassador to the broader community and the media; professional development resource; and leader in education reform.

### Application Procedures

Submit a written application with biographical and professional information, documentation of academic achievement, eight essays on topics ranging from personal teaching philosophy to the issues facing education, and letters of endorsement. For more information, see:

[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trtoyninf.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trtoyninf.htm)

### Application Deadline

September

### Contact Information

Jody Ohmert Nordbye

303-866-6937

[nordbye\\_j@cde.state.co.us](mailto:nordbye_j@cde.state.co.us)

## Milken Family Foundation National Educator Awards

This award recognizes and financially rewards elementary and secondary school teachers, principals, and other outstanding education professionals who demonstrate excellence while working directly with students and other teachers. This annual award program strives to increase public support and recognition of excellent K-12 educators who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement. Each recipient of the award receives \$25,000.

### Application Procedures

Recipients are selected from the Colorado Outstanding Educators Data Pool, comprising educators who have distinguished themselves in the eyes of their peers, their students, the community, and the Department. This form can be found on the CDE web site:  
[www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trmilken.htm](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdeawards/trmilken.htm)

### Application Deadline

April

### Contact Information

Mary Anne Hoffman  
303-623-5176  
[gmahoffman@aol.com](mailto:gmahoffman@aol.com)

## Colorado State Board of Education

### **Randy DeHoff**

Chairman  
Sixth Congressional District

### **John Burnett**

Vice Chairman  
Fifth Congressional District

### **Gully Stanford**

First Congressional District

### **Evie Hudak**

Second Congressional District

### **Pamela Jo Suckla**

Third Congressional District

### **Clair Orr**

Fourth Congressional District

### **Jared Polis**

Member-at-Large

### **William J. Moloney**

Commissioner of Education

### **Roscoe Davidson**

Deputy Commissioner of Education



Colorado Department of Education  
Competitive Grants and Awards Unit  
201 E. Colfax Avenue  
Denver, Colorado 80203